

MISS HTS . . . Barbara Ann Williams, a runner-up in the Miss Torrance contest, last Thursday made an appearance on NTG's TV show "Treasure Chest of Talent" and was asked to reappear on the show in August. Her appearance on the show puts her in line to win a flying trip to Las Vegas. The pretty blonde, a jewelry clerk in a Los Angeles department store, was one of the beauties to ride on the Gardena float in this year's Rose Parade.

NIGHT FIRE GUTS CHURCH

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20 PAGES

QUAKE DAMAGE NIL

Water Tank Slops Over In Tremor

Like a trained boxer, Torrance "rolled with the punch" early Monday morning and escaped with only minor damage during the second worst earthquake in California's history.

The rocking earth caused the Torrance Water Department's 2,000,000-gallon water tank in Torrance Gardens to slush over the top. The water washed some sand into nearby yards and caused some momentary alarm among residents close by.

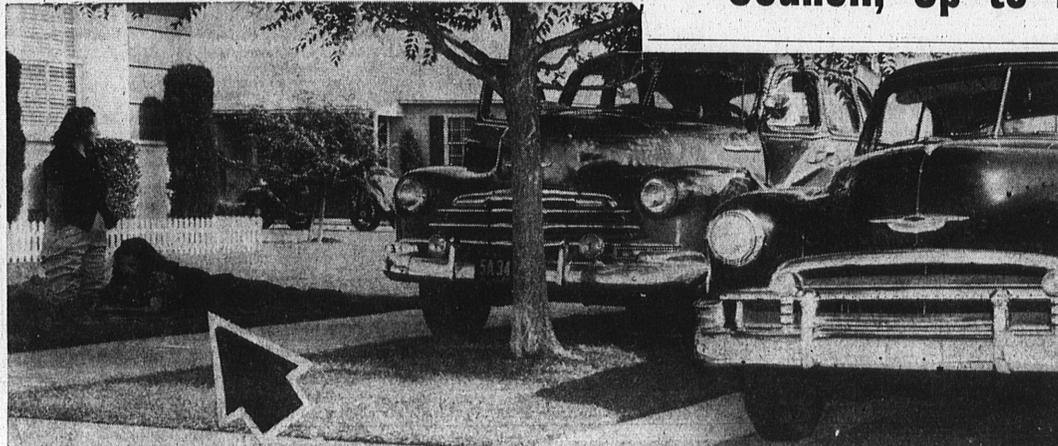
No Damage
"There was no damage to the tank," Angus McVicar, superintendent of the water department, reported.

The tall orange and white tank high atop a steel tower near the large storage tank suffered no ill effects, McVicar said.

The rolling tremor hit at 4:52 and brought scores of local residents bounding out of bed.

The usual phone calls swamped the Torrance Police and Fire switchboards, but not to report damage but only asking for information.

The Fire Department rolled (Continued on Page 7)



UNEXPECTED GUESTS . . . After colliding with a car at Walnut Ave. and Huber St., a car driven by Martha L. Swaffer rolled over the curb, whizzed across a front yard, narrowly missing the auto parked at right, and came to rest just six inches before smacking head-on into a tree.

Pictured is Sherry Meeks, 10, who was riding in the Swaffer car, being comforted by a resident of the area while waiting the ambulance. Officers cited the driver of the other auto involved in the wreck for failing to yield the right of way.

Auto Crashes Send Three to Hospital

Two men and a young girl were injured and another motorist miraculously escaped injuries in three separate traffic collisions this week which kept traffic officers hopping.

Most seriously hurt was John E. Miller, 49, a retired Navy man now living in National City. He suffered a compound fracture of his leg and multiple abrasions in a head-on crash at 190th St. and Hawthorne Blvd. Monday night.

Driving the other auto was Henry Blackwood, 44, of Inglewood, who sustained a possible fractured thigh and fractured ribs.

Girl Receives Hurts
Injured when the car in which she was riding was rammed in the side by another at Walnut and Huber Aves. Monday afternoon was Sherry Meeks, 10, of 22027 S. Normandie Ave. She was taken to Harbor General Hospital and treated for minor bruises.

Motorist Lloyd G. Howe, 27, of Lennox, came through "a close one" Sunday evening when his car went out of control and flipped upside down at 190th and Beryl Sts. He walked away with bruises and cuts, but refused medical attention.

In the head-on smash, Miller, now recovering at Harbor General Hospital, was cited by traffic officer J. B. Miles for weaving in and out of traffic and for driving over the center line.

Driving the auto in which little Sherry Meeks was riding was Martha Louise Swaffer, 25, of 1855 W. 25th St., Lomita. Miss Swaffer told officer W. R. Lewis she was heading north on Walnut Ave. and had entered the intersection when her car was hit by another.

Driver Cited
Daniel M. Jeldum, 20, of San Pedro, driver of the second vehicle, was handed a traffic ticket for failing to yield the right of way and not driving within the right-hand lane.

Miss Swaffer's car swung out of control after the initial impact, rolled over a curb and came to rest on a front lawn at 22662 Walnut Ave. narrowly missing a parked car, registered to Malcolm R. Van Dalsem.

SOME MENU

Patrons in a certain New York city restaurant were handed a menu listing the following dishes and their prices: Beef stew, 4 cents; corn beef and cabbage, 4 cents; roast beef, 5 cents; chicken stew, 5 cents; and other items costing about the same. Oh, yes, the year was 1834. What's that about the good old days? On the other hand any old day is a good day to use the inexpensive Big "9" Classified Ads to cook up a quick sale. And the price tag is mighty reasonable, too. Phone in your action-ad now for prompt selling, renting, trading or locating. The results will amaze you. Call Torrance 444 NOV.

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Service Sunday Despite Blaze, Members Claim

A roaring fire believed to have started in a small paint storage shed raced through the Walteria Baptist Church, Newton and Park Sts., an adjoining garage and a one-room building before it was brought under control by firemen early yesterday morning.

And before firefighters had finished cleaning up the smoky debris, church members were assuring the Rev. Andrew Duty that services would be held Sunday, "even if in a tent."

The fire, which was discovered shortly after midnight, probably started in a metal-covered lean-to at the rear of the frame church and quickly engulfed a garage on an adjoining lot, destroyed a high wooden fence and razed a storage building.

Loss was said to be near \$10,000. Two fire companies from the Torrance Fire Department, commanded by Chief J. J. Benner, kept the flames from completely destroying the church. Smoke damage was heavy.

Hymnals, Sunday school records and class materials, all were lost, it was indicated.

One church member, who poked through the ruins with Duty attempting to salvage some of the Sunday school lecture materials, said that the church currently is engaged in a building program.

Large piles of lumber stacked next to the church suffered some water damage, but much is still usable. Members were donating their own time to assist in the erection of a new building several doors away.

Although flames did not gut the chapel of the small church, heat and smoke damage makes it unusable.

Exact cause of the fire has not been determined. Owner of the garage and shed on the adjoining lot was listed as Hans P. Dana, of 3677 Newton St.

C of C to Revive Old Customs

Soon to be revived by the Chamber of Commerce are two old Torrance customs.

Upon the arrival of each new baby born at the Torrance Memorial Hospital the Chamber will send a card of greeting and the baby's first safety pin.

To all returning service men will go a "Welcome Home" card decorated with the picture of Shirley White—Miss Torrance of 1932. The greeting will be signed by Mayor Mervin Schwab.

Park Concert Set July 27

Attempts to promote interest in afternoon concerts at Torrance Park will be started Sunday by the Recreation Commission when the Torrance Accordionettes perform from 1:30 to 2:30 from the Band Shell.

The Commission has suggested that families might bring their lunch and enjoy the free concerts while eating.

Others tentatively on the slate are the Torrance Area Youth Band, Inc.; Ferrara Accordion Center; Mello Aires; Crandell's Dance Studio; and the Barber Shop Quartet Society members. The Accordionettes are from the local Bettie Thomas Studio.

\$2,501,500

City Flood Control Projects on Ballot

More than \$2,501,500 in storm drain projects, including the eventual drainage of Walteria Lake, are included in the county's proposed \$179,000,000 flood control bond issue to be voted on by the people in November.

Among the projects to be undertaken by the county if the bond issue passes will be: 1. A storm drain near Lomita Blvd. from the city limits westward to a point near Hawthorne Blvd.

2. Construction of a drain to handle the runoff water from the Naval Supply Depot and a drain along Dominguez St. to connect with the natural drainage ditch near Torrance Blvd. and Western Ave.

3. Two other drains, one along Arlington Ave. and another along Glenburn Ave. will empty into Laguna-Dominguez Channel relieving the flood conditions in North Torrance.

Others in Lomita
Two other projects, both in Lomita, will aid flood conditions in the area. A connecting drain will meet the Lomita Blvd. drain bringing the rain water to the point east of Western Ave. The project will cost approximately \$965,000.

The other project, costing \$715,100, will be constructed along Pacific Coast Hwy. from Pennsylvania Ave. to Normandie Ave.

Projects which will be erected in the Fourth Supervisorial District total \$48,497,500 or 28 percent of the total proposed bond issue, according to Raymond V. Darby, supervisor of the fourth district.

Sad Darby this week:

Authority Recommends Rezoning

An expression of opinion "that we have done all we can" for the parking problem and that the next move is up to the merchants, was voiced at the meeting of the Torrance City Council Tuesday night.

The action by the council followed a communication from the Parking Authority headed by C. T. Rippy in which he suggested that the council rezone a number of vacant downtown lots for off-street parking before "Torrance falls into the same trap as have other cities."

Councilman Harvey B. Spelman Jr. asked the council "go on record" as in favor of leaving the matter up to the Chamber of Commerce, the owners of the land, and the retail merchants.

Councilman Nick Drale expressed the opinion that parking was not a taxpayer's problem. He challenged the council's legal right to do anything about acquiring off-street parking areas.

"I believe it is up to the business men. They do it in other cities," Councilman Victor E. Benstead stated.

The city manager, George W. Stevens, reminded the council that it was they who appointed the Parking Authority to study the matter and offer recommendations on how the problem might be solved.

Spelman asked that the city manager write a letter of appreciation to the Authority for the fine efforts the group had expended on the matter thus far.



FIGHT BLAZE . . . A stream of water is played onto the burning embers of a storage building next to the Walteria Baptist Church which was razed by a \$10,000 fire early yesterday. Smoke damage in the chapel was heavy. Also gutted was a garage on an adjacent lot. Services will continue Sunday despite the mishap, church members say.